

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**LUKE D. BLACKFORD,**

**Defendant.**

**8:13CR451**

**DETENTION ORDER**

**A. Order For Detention**

After waiving a detention hearing pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f) of the Bail Reform Act on February 19, 2014, the Court orders the above-named defendant detained pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e) and (i).

**B. Statement Of Reasons For The Detention**

The Court orders the defendant's detention because it finds:

- ☒ By a preponderance of the evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required.
- ☒ By clear and convincing evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the safety of any other person or the community.

**C. Finding Of Fact**

The Court's findings are based on the evidence which was presented in court and contained in the Pretrial Services Report, and includes the following:

- ☒ (1) Nature and circumstances of the offense charged:
  - ☒ (a) The crime: distribution of methamphetamine (Counts I and II) in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) each carry a maximum sentence of twenty years imprisonment; the possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine (Count III) in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) carries a maximum sentence of twenty years imprisonment; the possession of a firearm by a convicted felon (Count IV) in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) carries a maximum sentence of ten years imprisonment; and the carrying of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime (Count V) in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(A) carries a mandatory minimum of five years imprisonment and a maximum of life imprisonment consecutive to any sentence on Count III.
  - ☒ (b) The offense is a crime of violence.
  - ☐ (c) The offense involves a narcotic drug.
  - ☐ (d) The offense involves a large amount of controlled substances, to wit:
- ☐ (2) The weight of the evidence against the defendant is high.
- ☒ (3) The history and characteristics of the defendant including:
  - (a) General Factors:
    - ☐ The defendant appears to have a mental condition which may affect whether the defendant will appear.
    - ☐ The defendant has no family ties in the area.
    - ☒ The defendant has no steady employment.
    - ☒ The defendant has no substantial financial resources.
    - ☐ The defendant is not a long time resident of the community.
    - ☐ The defendant does not have any significant community ties.

- X   Past conduct of the defendant: violations of probation
- X   The defendant has a history relating to drug abuse.
- The defendant has a history relating to alcohol abuse.
- X   The defendant has a significant prior criminal record.
- The defendant has a prior record of failure to appear at court proceedings.

(b) At the time of the current arrest, the defendant was on:

- Probation
- Parole
- Release pending trial, sentence, appeal or completion of sentence.

(c) Other Factors:

- The defendant is an illegal alien and is subject to deportation.
- The defendant is a legal alien and will be subject to deportation if convicted.
- The Bureau of Immigration and Custom Enforcement (BICE) has placed a detainer with the U.S. Marshal.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

  X   (4) The nature and seriousness of the danger posed by the defendant's release are as follows: The nature of the charges in the Indictment and the defendant's criminal and substance abuse history.

  X   (5) **Rebuttable Presumptions**

In determining that the defendant should be detained, the Court also relied on the following rebuttable presumption(s) contained in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e) which the Court finds the defendant has not rebutted:

- X   (a) That no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of any other person and the community because the Court finds that the crime involves:
  - X   (1) A crime of violence; or
  - (2) An offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment or death; or
  - X   (3) A controlled substance violation which has a maximum penalty of 10 years or more; or
  - (4) A felony after the defendant had been convicted of two or more prior offenses described in (1) through (3) above, and the defendant has a prior conviction for one of the crimes mentioned in (1) through (3) above which is less than five years old and which was committed while the defendant was on pretrial release.
- X   (b) That no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of the community because the Court finds that there is probable cause to believe:
  - X   (1) That the defendant has committed a controlled substance violation which has a maximum penalty of 10 years or more.
  - X   (2) That the defendant has committed an offense under 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) (uses or carries a firearm during and in relation to any crime of violence, including a crime of violence, which provides for an enhanced punishment

if committed by the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or device).

**D. Additional Directives**

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3142(i)(2)-(4), the Court directs that:

1. The defendant be committed to the custody of the Attorney General for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent practicable from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal; and
2. The defendant be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel; and
3. That, on order of a court of the United States, or on request of an attorney for the government, the person in charge of the corrections facility in which the defendant is confined deliver the defendant to a United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding.

DATED: February 19, 2014.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Thomas D. Thalken  
United States Magistrate Judge